

# NETWORKS!

JULY 2006

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## SUMMER SEASON TIPS!!

- Keep your grass under 10 inches long.
- Keep your yards and sidewalks free of litter.
- Keep the music in your homes and cars at a reasonable level.
- Keep Toter lids tightly shut to avoid unwanted visitors.
- Be a GOOD Neighbor!

## CLIFF-NOTES

BY MOLLY CLIFFORD

On behalf of the entire Neighborhood Empowerment Teams (NET) staff, welcome to the first edition of *NETWorks!* There have been a number of changes to the NET program over the past few months, and we hope that our initiatives, like this newsletter, will help us serve you better.

This quarterly newsletter will share information about City of Rochester policies and procedures, celebrate neighborhood successes, and tell you about upcoming events and community meetings. If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please let us know by contacting [crayonn@cityofrochester.gov](mailto:crayonn@cityofrochester.gov). You can also find a downloadable copy on the City's website [www.cityofrochester.gov](http://www.cityofrochester.gov).

We hope you had an opportunity to participate in "Rochester's Clean Sweep," Mayor Duffy's initiative to bring community volunteers and City staff together to concentrate our efforts on cleaning up a different NET area each week. NET is proud to have been an integral part of this program, organizing volunteers and special projects for clean-up. We had hundreds of volunteers each week picking up literally tons of garbage and debris that accumulated over the winter. In NET offices across the City, we're working hard to improve our customer service, while maintaining our commitment to partnering with residents and investors to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Each NET office is now open one evening a week to better assist residents who work during the day. Your NET Area, E, is now open on Thursday's from 8:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m. Please feel free to call or stop in if you have questions or concerns about your neighborhood. At any time, if you have comments or questions about NET, please feel free to contact your area administrator or me. I can be reached at 428-6524 or by e-mail at [molly.clifford@cityofrochester.gov](mailto:molly.clifford@cityofrochester.gov). Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer!



**Molly Clifford**  
NET Director

## KEE-NOTE ADDRESS

BY KEENAN L. ALLEN

I would like to thank the many people that have welcomed me in my new role as Neighborhood Empowerment Team Administrator. As a resident of Sector 8, getting this assignment is special. I sense a spirit of renewal and community pride that is greatly motivating. As your NET Administrator I want you to know that we are working hard to build upon old relationships, renew lost relationships, and establish new relationships.

NET is focused on customer service, addressing your concerns in the best manner we can, and being honest and up front about what we can and cannot do. Our office is open until 8:00 p.m. Thursdays, and inspections may be scheduled as late as 6pm. NET's job is to ensure that the Property Maintenance Code is enforced, and to help with general Quality of Life issues. We hope these extended hours help us to do that job for you.



**Keenan L. Allen**  
NET Administrator

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## KEE-NOTE ADDRESS

(CONTINUED FROM P. 1)

Several months ago, we had a successful "Clean Sweep" week where we saw 72% of our registered volunteers turn out to spruce up our neighborhoods. We are witnessing the demolitions and the rehabilitation of severely blighted properties. We have teamed up with PAC-TAC, NEAD, and our Police Department, and have held Saturation PAC-TAC's and Community Gatherings to show strength and collaboration between local government and our residents when addressing open-air drug dealing, criminal, and nuisance behavior. We have much work ahead of us, but I have no doubt that Sector 8 will be one of the most attractive areas of the City for people to invest, and live in, for years to come.

I have been meeting with you, listening to your concerns, and going out to see them first hand. I believe it is important for me to experience what you experience as much as I can, so I can work effectively with my staff to serve you the best we can. I also look forward to hearing your suggestions, and solutions regarding your concerns.

It is my belief that problems are best addressed when solutions are offered as well. I invite you to call and visit our office to express your concerns, but also to let us know when we have been able to assist you in the eradication of problems. Let us know how we have helped, so we can learn from our successes, and continue to be a major community resource.

I look forward to hearing your ideas for a better neighborhood.

Call me at 428-7650.

***"I have been  
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## NEW LEAD BASED PAINT POISONING PREVENTION CODE

BY GARY KIRKMIRE, NET CODE COORDINATOR

On July 1, 2006 the City's new Lead Ordinance went into effect. The Ordinance is applicable to all structures built prior to 1978. As part of any of the types of inspections currently being performed by NET staff, there will be a visual observation for deteriorated paint and bare soil.

The Legislation requires the use of Lead Safe Work Practices for anyone correcting a deteriorated paint violation and prohibits bare soil from being within three feet of the perimeter of a residential building. Once the necessary work is completed, deteriorated paint violations on the exterior, including open porches, will be visually cleared by NET staff. Interior deteriorated paint violations must be cleared by a Certified Lead Based Paint Inspector or Risk Assessor. In addition, in the designated "High Risk" areas, if a dwelling unit being inspected does not have an interior deteriorated paint violation, a lead dust wipe test will be scheduled and conducted by city staff.

For further information, including available grants, please contact the Lead Hotline at **428-LEAD** (5323) or visit the city's Lead web site at <http://lead.cityofrochester.gov>



## ROLL CALL



BY LT. ERIC PAUL

With all the positives that the warm weather and sunshine bring, we quickly notice a few negatives that accompany the onset of summer. I'm not talking about ALLERGY season, although it may affect some of us worse than others. I am talking about City Residents' second greatest: **NOISE**. It has been deemed a major Quality of Life issue, so much so that the City increased the penalties for violations of the City's Noise Ordinance several years ago.

**The Noise Ordinance for Vehicles.** If you can hear electronically produced sound (car stereo for example), emanating from a vehicle over **50 feet** away, that vehicle is in violation of the Noise Ordinance. A Police Officer who sees this violation **can** stop the vehicle and cite the driver for a violation of the noise ordinance (\$100 ticket). The Officer **can** also tow the vehicle to the pound and force the owner to pay an additional (\$100+) tow fee. If the owner does not pick up the vehicle in a timely manner, he/she will incur added storage fees for that vehicle. **WHAT YOU CAN DO!** As a City resident, you should write down the license plate as well as the make and model of the car. Call your local NET office and report the complaint giving as much information of time and place as possible.

**The Noise Ordinance for a Residence.** If you are playing your home stereo or boom box inside or outside of your home between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 p.m., the noise/music should not be heard more than **50 feet** past your property line. Additionally, between the hours of **10 PM and 8 AM**, the noise/stereo should not be heard more than 50 feet from its source. It is important to note the times of day that allow for the variations of the Ordinance. **WHAT YOU CAN DO!** Take down as much information as possible including date and time of occurrence, house or apartment number, distance you estimate that the sound is traveling over 50 feet and most importantly, if at all possible, WHO the offender is. The Police ultimately need to know who is responsible and who will receive the \$100 ticket.

During the Summer, the Rochester Police Department will be conducting NOISE DETAILS on a regular basis throughout the City.

## INSPECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

BY JOHN MCMAHON

**Unlicensed Cars and You:** A standard complaint at your Neighborhood Empowerment Team is for unlicensed or junk vehicles. The City of Rochester's Property Conservation Code prohibits storage of these vehicles on residential property - and for good reason. They offer harborage for rodents, a temptation for curious youth and an eye-sore to the surrounding neighborhood in many cases. **If You Have One:** Make it Legal: Make sure it is Registered and Inspected with Plates and Sticker; Get a permit: Call 428-6526; for a small fee you can legally store one vehicle per property for up to six months; Make it Gone: Put it in a garage or give it to charity. **If You See One:** Please call your Neighborhood Empowerment Team Office. Please indicate if it is visible from the street, or if you can only see it from your yard. Be sure to give the Neighborhood Conservation Officer permission to enter your yard to view it. If we can't see it, we can't cite it. Once verified, the property owner is issued a Notice and Order telling them we noticed a violation, and they are ordered to correct it. The notice and order expires after ten days. Once this ten day period has expired, the NCO returns, places a warning sticker on the car, and records the VIN#. A certified letter is then sent to the last legal registrant giving them ten days to follow the steps above. After the ten days have passed your NCO returns for another inspection. A final warning sticker is placed on the car, a picture is taken and all relative paperwork to have the car towed the following day is submitted. The cars Blue Book Value determines its fate. Cars valued at under \$1,250 are signed over to the towing contractor to be destroyed.

## WHAT'S REALLY GOOD!

"Big Up" to Bensonhurst Neighborhood Association for beautifying their neighborhood with planters. As you drive, walk, and jog through Bensonhurst, whose boundaries are from Pershing Drive to Culver Road, between Bay Street and Clifford Avenue, you will see beautiful flowers that have been planted in containers on the corners. Bensonhurst was able to initiate this project by raising money through a bottle drive, getting dirt from the City's "Give Back" program, donations from residents, the "Rochester Blossoms" program, and the labor of volunteers. Bensonhurst is an example that you should never stop finding ways to keep your neighborhood beautiful.

Next time you drive down Hazelwood Terrace take a look at house 376. Shawn Stoner and David Frazer, the owners, have done an excellent job improving this home with a new roof, gutters, siding, steps, and windows. Great job gentlemen, and thank you for your investment in the Beechwood Neighborhood. Now **That's What's Really Good!**



## **NETWORKS!**

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## **NEIGHBORHOOD HAPPENINGS!**

### **N. Winton Village Association**

Every Thursday: 12 noon @ Club Soda

### **Beechwood Neighborhood Coalition**

The first Thursday of each month, 7 PM @ St. Mark's & St. John's, 1245 Culver Rd

### **Police and Citizens Interaction Committee—PCIC**

The second Thursday of each month, 6:30 PM @ St. John's, 150 Floverton St

### **Bensonhurst Neighborhood Association**

The second Thursday of each month, 7 PM @ Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Rd.